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7
8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. **2010-527**

13 **DIANE LYNN DUNKLIN AKA DIANE**
14 **LYNN TORRES AKA DIANE LYNN**
15 **SNYDER**
16 **3616 Earnhardt Drive**
17 **Bakersfield, CA 93306**
18 **Registered Nurse License No. 580170**

ACCUSATION

Respondent.

19 Complainant alleges:

20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her
22 official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department
23 of Consumer Affairs.

24 2. On or about April 24, 2001, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse
25 License Number 580170 to Diane Lynn Dunklin aka Diane Lynn Torres aka Diane Lynn Snyder
26 (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to
27 the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2010, unless renewed.

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1 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

2 (Improper Relations with Patient)

3 9. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 726, on the
4 grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that Respondent engaged in romantic relationship with a
5 patient under her care. Respondent admits to having a romantic relationship with Patient S.F. and
6 admits to violating hospital policies regarding such relationships. The circumstances are as
7 follows:

8 a. Respondent was employed as a nurse at Atascadero State Hospital, which houses
9 incarcerated individuals who require medical care. Respondent worked in unit 30, and provided
10 nursing care to sexually violent predators (SVP). In or between, September 2005 through May
11 2006, Respondent developed a romantic relationship with Patient S.F., a sexually violent
12 predator, who was assigned to Respondent's unit. Specifically, Respondent admits that her and
13 Patient S.F. would hug, kiss and fondle each other. They would also speak on the phone and
14 engage in conversations of a sexual nature. Respondent admits to receiving gifts and mail from
15 Patient S.F. Respondent even provided a co-worker's address to Patient S.F., so he could send
16 Respondent flowers and candy, while she visited the co-worker's home. Additionally,
17 Respondent would spend extra time in the yard with Patient S.F. Respondent also provided
18 Patient S.F. with copies of medical records and requests that Respondent made on his behalf.
19 Respondent's conduct jeopardized the safety of herself and her co-workers at Atascadero State
20 Hospital.

21 b. Respondent's co-workers became concerned about her contact with Patient S.F., and
22 filed a complaint with their superiors. On or about May 9, 2006, Respondent was made aware of
23 the staff's concerns regarding her contact with Patient S.F. On or about May 10, 2006,
24 Respondent was restricted from entering the secure area of the facility, where the SVPs live and
25 receive care. An internal investigation ensued. In lieu of being discharged, Respondent resigned
26 from her position on or about June 26, 2006. Following Respondent's resignation, she would go
27 to Atascadero State Hospital to visit Patient S.F.

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1 SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

2 (Unprofessional Conduct)

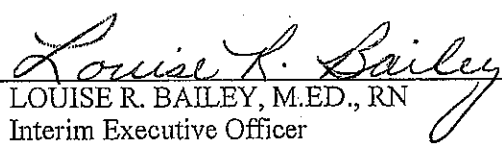
3 10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2761
4 subdivision (a) in that Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct. Complainant's
5 allegations, as set forth in paragraph 9 subparagraphs (a) and (b), are incorporated by reference,
6 as though fully set forth.

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8 PRAYER

9 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
10 and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- 11 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 580170, issued to Diane
12 Lynn Dunklin, aka Diane Lynn Torres, aka Diane Lynn Snyder;
- 13 2. Ordering Diane Lynn Dunklin to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable
14 costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Code section 125.3; and
- 15 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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18 DATED: 4/21/10


19 LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN
20 Interim Executive Officer
21 Board of Registered Nursing
22 Department of Consumer Affairs
23 State of California
24 Complainant

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